

the regiment that charged at Buena Vista, and for whom, in company with all the regiments of the North and South, as well as all the interests of posterity, this doctrine of the Wilmett proviso is pressed. We thank our correspondent for characterizing us as its "zealous champion."

REMEMBER IT.

Hon. John Wentworth, speaking of the nomination of General Taylor by the Whigs, and its sanction by Mr. Calhoun, and all the reasons to keep up slave-breeding and to extend slave territory, will go for a President who has the firmness to veto the Wilmett proviso. The Southern slaveholders will go for General Taylor on principle, and Northern Whigs on glory and patronage.

"Already galled with Southern tyranny, the free States were about to break their shackles, when, according to Whig predictions, General Taylor is selected as the only man who can keep these shackles upon them for four years longer. Will the North ever have another President?"

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 10, 1847.

LETTERS FROM THE EDITOR.

MATTERS AND THINGS IN VIRGINIA.

STONEY CREEK, SUSSEX CO., VA., June 1, 1847.

To the Readers of the Era:

Some two years and a half ago, as many of my old readers may remember, I had the pleasure of sending them an occasional line from this, the lower part of Virginia. Sussex county adjoins Southampton, the scene of Nat Turner's insurrection, and contains a large slave population. The Era was lately denounced by a meeting in New York, because it had not provoked a mob in Washington. Probably I shall incur similar censure, for being able to avoid a coat of tar and feathers in the heart of the slaveholding region. But it is no difficult matter to do this. Whatever of an idol slavery may be among slaveholders in Virginia, they do not ask a stranger to fall down and worship it, nor would they respect him for volunteering any superfluous complacency towards it.

Mr. Calhoun's dogma about the blessedness of slavery has never got foothold in this State. No matter what prostitute politicians or preachers may preach, it would take a great deal to convince me that the people of Virginia have changed their opinions in relation to the "great evil" of slavery. I have yet to see the Virginian who does not regard it as a curse.

The next census will reveal startling facts concerning the population of this State, both bond and free. This county is a specimen of a large portion of Virginia. Its old families are disappearing—some removing to the South, some to the West. Fifty years ago, the children were educated without being sent abroad; they then turned in and thought it no disgrace to labor with their fathers in the fields on which they subsequently settled. Times have changed. Slaves have multiplied, and with their increase have come unbridled, but farming, indolence, pride. The land is exhausted.

It takes all the negroes to make any real progress, except that they have got it, labor is the last thing they think of; home presents but few attractions, and they abandon the State, of which they still make their boast. Their parents soon follow; and thus, one by one, the old families pass away. The melancholy pine is springing up in deserted fields. As you pass along to that house, with its crumbling chimney and sashless windows, is grown up with thin, pale grass. Of many old settlements, nothing remains but the well with its broken bucket, and a few neglected graves. Such a country is full of the poetry of desolation. There is nothing in it new or noisy. In all points it is the contrast of the rushing, wild world of the West. Everything is still. Nobody makes haste. The white sands gleam in the hot sunshine; vegetation creeps up slowly through a bare soil. The dark creeks send through gloomy forests, as if the rustling of a leaf. You travel in the woods through a long, sad avenue of pines, where the road is but wide enough for one carriage, no one dreaming of the possibility of meeting another equipage.

And there is no help for all this, while slavery shall continue. The ineritance of slave labor is death to all improvement. Let the master attempt to introduce any new mode of cultivation, or any process to renew his lands, and the slaves will laugh at him. They can't be driven out of the old outhouses, and the slaveholder of Virginia hardly loves money well enough to free himself about it.

The sale of slaves to the South is carried to a great extent. The slaveholders do not, so far as I can learn, raise them for that special purpose. But, here is a man with a score of slaves, located on an exhausted plantation. It must furnish support for all; but while they increase its capacity of supply decreases. The result is, he must emancipate or sell. But he has fallen into debt, and he sells to relieve himself from debt, and also from an excess of mouths. Or, he requires money to educate his children; or, his negroes are sold under execution. From these and other causes, large numbers of slaves are continually disappearing from the State, so that the next census will undoubtedly show a marked diminution of the slave population.

The season for this trade is generally from November to April, and some estimate that the average number of slaves passing by the Southern railroad weekly, during that period of six months, is at least two hundred. A slave trader told me that he had known one hundred pass in a single night. But this is only one route. Large numbers are sent off westwardly, and also by sea-coastwise. The Davises, in Petersburg, are the great slave dealers. They are Jews, who came to that place many years ago as poor peddlars; and, I am informed, are members of a family which has its representatives in Philadelphia, New York, &c. These are always in the market, giving the highest price for slaves. During the summer and fall they buy them up at low prices, trim, shave, wash them, fatten them so that they may look sleek, and sell them to great profit. It might not be unprofitable to inquire how much Northern capital, and what firms in some of the Northern cities, are connected with this detestable business.

There are many planters here who cannot be persuaded to sell their slaves. They have far more than they can find work for, and could at any time obtain a high price for them. The temptation is strong, for they want more money and fewer dependants. But they resist it, and nothing can induce them to part with single slaves, though they know that they would be greatly gainer in a pecuniary sense, were they to sell one-half of them. Such men are too good to be slaveholders. Would that they might see it their duty to go one step further, and become emancipators! The majority of this class of planters are religious men, and this is the class to which generally are to be referred the various cases of emancipation by will, of which from time to time we hear accounts.

I have made some inquiry as to the ability of slaves to read in this region, but estimates differ. A gentleman, who was born and has always lived here, says there is one or more of the slaves on almost every plantation that can read. Another, a large planter, says that on an average not one in fifty can read. Another, not one in a thousand. There are laws against teaching them to read, but they certainly are not rigidly enforced, perhaps because no stiff warranty of notice is made to teach them. We asked a large slaveholder what possible objection there could be to giving the Bible to the slaves? He could not see any; he seemed to think it might be a benefit. Can there be a doubt of this? Is not God, the God of the slave as well as of the free? Has He not revealed Himself for the benefit of all? Is there a word that He has spoken that

should not be read and pondered by every creature whom He has made? Good God! what a treasure were thy Book to the poor, degraded bondman! The source of Light, it would also be a fountain of Peace.

G. B.

THE EVIL—THE REMEDY.

STONEY CREEK, SUSSEX CO., VA., June 2, 1847.

DEAR READER: Slavery is undoubtedly doomed in this State. It does not pay. From beginning to end, it is a losing concern. Land is continually decreasing in value. Not far hence is a tract of 1,400 acres well timbered, and lying along a creek, which, twenty years ago, brought from \$10 to \$20 an acre. It was sold, five years ago, for \$6 or \$7. The people are not blind to these things. Nobody denies that slavery is at the bottom of the mischief; but all seem paralyzed by the magnitude of the evil. They hope that, under the operation of the causes I have mentioned, the continual drain of the slave population to the South, may, in the course of forty or fifty years, relieve them of the incubus. But, what a strange process! to afford to the slaves, impoverishing the State. While this process shall continue, the soil will grow leaner, the price of land will diminish, emigration of the white population will increase, so that this ancient and venerable commonwealth, in many parts, will be depopulated. It is a most painful subject.

Could these estimable people (for estimable they are, despite the circumstances surrounding them) only overcome their prejudices, look at the principle of emancipation upon the soil in its true light, and as illustrated by the working of the Free Labor system in the West Indies, they would see, at once, the clew to lead them out of all their difficulties. The great mistake they now make is, in judging of the effects of emancipation, as the settled policy of the State, by its effects in a few exceptional cases. A small number of slaves, from time to time, has been liberated, and the great mass still remaining in bondage. They are degraded, because nearly all their brethren are still slaves; outcasts, because nobody cares for their welfare; idle and thriftless, because they are obtain no regular employment, there being almost always an excess of slave labor; and because, while slave labor shall predominate, they cannot expect greatly to better their condition by any amount of industry. They are regarded with dislike and suspicion, because their presence and free association with the slaves tend to render the latter discontented. In fact, the two classes injure each other.

Now, it seems to us, that every reflecting mind, if divested of prejudice, must see that these evils prove nothing, except that two modes of labor, so directly and completely antagonistic as free and slave labor, cannot co-exist. Where free labor is the general system, slave labor cannot prevail; it may exist for a time, but it must soon become extinct. Where slave labor is the system, free white labor is expelled or repelled, and free black labor debased to the point of utter worthlessness. There is no alternative: all the laborers must be free, or slaves.

Suppose, then, the public sentiment of Virginia is to be so changed that, by an act of the requisite power, all the slaves of the State were to be made free at once. See the operation of the new order of things. Labor would be elevated to a rank of comparative respectability, and so cease to be repulsive. As all would be free, all would have only one interest; there would be no slave population to be rendered discontented by the presence of a small class of degraded freemen; they would have equal chances for employment; there being no longer any competition between free and slave labor. As all would be free, every one would be highly wounded, not by a bullet, but by a fall. While gallantly engaged, with that devotion to the softer sex which should ever illustrate the defenders of their country, in escorting a lady after nightfall about the streets of Matamoras, he fell into a ditch, and broke his leg. This should be a warning to our gallant generals. Their lives are too precious to be hazarded in the perilous service of escorting ladies in the dark!

How often is the truth of Solomon's saying verified?—"There is nothing new under the sun." The phrase "rough and ready" was originally applied to a personage somewhat different from Gen. Taylor. Harry Lorrequer, or rather, Charles Lever, in his novel entitled "The O'Donnough," introduces to our acquaintance a fat, buxom, Irish landlady, named Mary, whom he describes as being distinguished by "an expression of a rough and ready temperament." Perhaps she may have been the General's grandmother.

Talking of Solomon's maxim, perhaps few of my readers are aware of the origin of that very convenient party word, "gerrymander." Mr. Clegg, in his "Olive Branch," the sixth and last edition of which I think was published in 1815, favours us with the following paragraph:

"The State of Massachusetts was depicted, two or three years since, as a sort of monstrous figure, with the counties forming the Senatorial districts displayed on this unprincipled plan. [That of uniting the strongest to the weakest, so as to secure a party majority.] It was entitled "The Gerrymander," in allusion to the name of the late Vice President of the United States, then Governor of that State, [Mr. Gerry.] Hence I derive the name of the party."

It is somewhat ludicrous that the name of so respectable a gentleman and illustrious a patriot as Mr. Gerry should go down to posterity as the designation of one of the most profligate species of party trickery. It is not every good man who is destined to such an immortality.

G. B.

REMINISCENCES, ETC.

STONEY CREEK, SUSSEX CO., VA., June 3, 1847.

DEAR READER: A day or two since, I visited the old homestead, situated in one of the letters in the fall of 1844. There it still stood, unchanged, with its peaked roof, and unpainted porch, polished by age and long use; and bright, slippery floors; and its unsoiled, ancient furniture with the little enclosure hard by, where rest the remains of its departed patriarch; and with the everlasting sycamore throwing its gigantic arms over all. All things continue as they were, except touch where touched by the finger of Decay. Families may abandon their homes, but not alter them. In a ride the other day, I noticed a striking exception to this remark. There stood a little distance from the roadside, an old, weather-beaten mansion, which, though once painted, had long since parted with its artificial covering, except a faint patch here and there, and in spots conspicuously against the weathered walls. Its moss-covered roof, and little grim-looking windows, and dilapidated condition generally, have furnished quite a respectable picture of decay; but it had not been for a "brain-new" porch and new window-shutter, with which its irreverent inmates had ventured to patch it. We suppose it to be the work of politics now-a-days, when compared with the fashions of those days, they are altogether lamb-like. No one can read such a work as this—the speeches that were made in Congress, the appeals put forth by the press, the reports of the political condition of the Union at the eventful period when it was written. No history can convey so vivid and truthful an idea. We confess we never knew the imminent peril to which faction and sectionalism had subjected this Union, the desperate extremes to which party madness had gone, till we read this book. South Carolina of late years has not been more violent against the General Government than Massachusetts was just before and during the war; and as to the people of this State, would rank among the most violent party nominators.

G. B.

THE CONDITION, POLICY, AND PROSPECTS OF THE WHIG PARTY.

STONEY CREEK, SUSSEX CO., VA., June 4, 1847.

DEAR READER: On the first page of the Era you will find materials for the formation of an opinion of the present condition of the Whig party. A few Whigs in some of the free States, chiefly in Northern Ohio, stand pledged against the support of General Taylor, and a full examination of the operation and results of emancipation there, and then lay the facts before the people of this State, would rank among the greatest of public benefactors.

G. B.

THE WHIGS.

STONEY CREEK, SUSSEX CO., VA., June 5, 1847.

DEAR READER: A day or two since, I visited the old homestead, situated in one of the letters in the fall of 1844. There it still stood, unchanged, with its peaked roof, and unpainted porch, polished by age and long use; and bright, slippery floors; and its unsoiled, ancient furniture with the little enclosure hard by, where rest the remains of its departed patriarch; and with the everlasting sycamore throwing its gigantic arms over all. All things continue as they were, except touch where touched by the finger of Decay. Families may abandon their homes, but not alter them. In a ride the other day, I noticed a striking exception to this remark. There stood a little distance from the roadside, an old, weather-beaten mansion, which, though once painted, had long since parted with its artificial covering, except a faint patch here and there, and in spots conspicuously against the weathered walls. Its moss-covered roof, and little grim-looking windows, and dilapidated condition generally, have furnished quite a respectable picture of decay; but it had not been for a "brain-new" porch and new window-shutter, with which its irreverent inmates had ventured to patch it. We suppose it to be the work of politics now-a-days, when compared with the fashions of those days, they are altogether lamb-like. No one can read such a work as this—the speeches that were made in Congress, the appeals put forth by the press, the reports of the political condition of the Union at the eventful period when it was written. No history can convey so vivid and truthful an idea. We confess we never knew the imminent peril to which faction and sectionalism had subjected this Union, the desperate extremes to which party madness had gone, till we read this book. South Carolina of late years has not been more violent against the General Government than Massachusetts was just before and during the war; and as to the people of this State, would rank among the most violent party nominators.

G. B.

THE WHIGS.

STONEY CREEK, SUSSEX CO., VA., June 6, 1847.

DEAR READER: A day or two since, I visited the old homestead, situated in one of the letters in the fall of 1844. There it still stood, unchanged, with its peaked roof, and unpainted porch, polished by age and long use; and bright, slippery floors; and its unsoiled, ancient furniture with the little enclosure hard by, where rest the remains of its departed patriarch; and with the everlasting sycamore throwing its gigantic arms over all. All things continue as they were, except touch where touched by the finger of Decay. Families may abandon their homes, but not alter them. In a ride the other day, I noticed a striking exception to this remark. There stood a little distance from the roadside, an old, weather-beaten mansion, which, though once painted, had long since parted with its artificial covering, except a faint patch here and there, and in spots conspicuously against the weathered walls. Its moss-covered roof, and little grim-looking windows, and dilapidated condition generally, have furnished quite a respectable picture of decay; but it had not been for a "brain-new" porch and new window-shutter, with which its irreverent inmates had ventured to patch it. We suppose it to be the work of politics now-a-days, when compared with the fashions of those days, they are altogether lamb-like. No one can read such a work as this—the speeches that were made in Congress, the appeals put forth by the press, the reports of the political condition of the Union at the eventful period when it was written. No history can convey so vivid and truthful an idea. We confess we never knew the imminent peril to which faction and sectionalism had subjected this Union, the desperate extremes to which party madness had gone, till we read this book. South Carolina of late years has not been more violent against the General Government than Massachusetts was just before and during the war; and as to the people of this State, would rank among the most violent party nominators.

G. B.

radio with a single sloop, to the chagrin of the Commodore, who had resolved that it should not be captured except by a conjoint tremendous attack by his whole squadron and a strong land force under Gen. Quitman. Many of our martial editors in Philadelphia and New York, ambitious of the glory of being the thoughtless disciplinarians, evince a becoming horror of the disbelieve of the subordinate, and cannot enough admire the Roman severity of Commodore Perry. I am not learned in military matters, but humbly suggest to these sons of thunder, that the solemn Commodore, had he been a little less Roman, would not have been without high example.

During the last war, that famous Hotspur, Croghan, received positive orders from his superior, Gen. Harrison, to retire from Fort Meigs, to return, and, after the capture of the fort by the rebels, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river?—[Report, page 172.]

Capt. Dyson, the commanding officer, was taken in the rear of the fort by the rebels, and, obeying rigidly his orders, blew up the fort, and retreated. For this act of obedience, he was brought to trial, and sentenced to be dismissed from the service!

Commodore Perry is a great man. I suppose he is not a petty harbor or smuggler's covet on the coast of Mexico while he has not, by this time, received positive orders from his superior, to do the same.

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and, in the event of the capture of the fort, to blow up the fort, to burn, to blow across the river."

Gen. Winder, who did not prevent a small, almost exhausted British army from capturing Washington, in his report concerning that memorable achievement, said:

"I sent, by Major Hilt, directions to the commanding officer of Fort Washington, to advance a guard up the river, and,

been forwarded to Mr. Knox. In her Majesty's charter, granted to the colony of New Zealand, and the explanatory minutes appended thereto, the committee, after careful attention, perceived various points of injustice towards the natives, and several provisions which were likely to produce highly injurious effects in their favor. The departmental committee took the opportunity of pleading with his lordship against the project for conveying a cargo of slaves from the coast of Africa to the British plantations in the West Indies, and the project was deferred, as calculated to retard the civilization of Africa. The unhappy state of Tahiti, and the neighboring islands in the South Seas, had engaged the attention of the committee, and, in his communication to the Government of France on behalf of those people, so unrighteously oppressed by the aggressions of some French officers. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. He also preached to twelve of our largest congregations in London. On last Sabbath he preached twice, and pleased his hearers with great effect. He has been a recommendation in itself of a disadvantage to him here.

Respecting monetary affairs, I am happy to send you a better account than in last issue. There is a decided improvement for the present in money affairs. Good bills, at a moderate rate, can be obtained at the rate of 6 per cent, in high. This may be quoted as 6 per cent, and upward, in a large number of instances. The evidence necessary for a further large importation of grain from the country, and a fear that the payment for that article may again lead to a serious drain of gold, prevents a feeling of confidence in the future.

LETTER FROM ALBANY.

A Trip to the Capital of the Empire State—Object of it—A Case of Mercy for Gav. Young—Jews and Christians contrasted in certain respects—The State House—The Geological Rooms—The Anatomical Museum—Rev. Mr. Pepp's Glass Works—The Slave Cause in Albany, &c.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 29, 1847.

To the Editor of the *National Era*:

I wrote you a letter, under date of Boston, May 27, which had some fears of your not receiving in due time. There is one of the important objects of Anniversary Week in that city—an occasion which was one of novel and lively interest to me, and one, of which I felt inclined to say much more than the hurry under which I wrote allowed. However, it is probable that my notices of these reformatory movements were extended quite enough for the taste of the general reader, and that their brevity was, for that reason, fortunate.

The principal, I may say the sole object, of my visit to Albany, was a conference with Gov. Young, with respect to a case of humanity. I found His Excellency to be a plain, unpretending man, disposed to hear to the claims of my case, rather than the actual claims of the letters through which I obtained an introduction to him; for, it is known, I had taken the usual plan of approach, which appears to me to have been originally predicated upon the absurd notion that Governors cease to be men the moment they assume the authority of their office!

The case to which I refer is one of deep interest, as connected with the tyranny of some of our Maryland laws, and the evils used made of them by certain of our policemen. You would doubtless take not a little interest in its details, were I privileged to give them. This I may do, after the Governor has decided upon my application. Suffice it to say, that, having occasion to solicit the co-operation of certain individuals concerned, the most merciful of them were Jews! Under the influence of those Christian prejudices instilled into my mind from infancy, I had felt disposed to pass them by; but I finally concluded to approach them as men. I did so, with the result—a result which may be profitably pondered by those who may be curiously informed, from a single act committed by some of the governors of this despised people, that they are not naturally actuated by the same impulses as Christ.

Here let me digress a little further, as allowable in epistolary writings, and declare my belief that thousands of our fellow-beings are actually better than their creeds. On no other supposition can I account for the fact, that, in all the essentials of truth, in all their aims at practical righteousness, exhibit but slight shades of contrast, after all. So with deportments from the path of rectitude, whether amounting to minor sins, or deeds most vile. Look at the finish of it, in which we are now engaged! Behold how professing Christians—even professed ministers of the gospel, of every name, are *murdering*, instead of *loving* one another! In view of this painful fact, it is natural that there is not a single Jew engaged in this country, who, I am led to express the fear, that were the slaves of Jesus on earth, faithfully exposing and rebuking the public and private sins of our nation, calling things by their right names, the Jews would not be under the necessity of becoming his murderers—there probably would be plenty of modern Christians ready to glory in the finish of his crucifixion!

After getting through my business with the Governor, I took a walk of observation, under the direction of our zealous and generally-heared friend Chapman, the great Patriot! The State House, which stands high above the city, was presented in an imposing view, as we approached in from the river. The steamer Isaac Newton, overlooking a lovely park, enlivened by the commanding note of musical birds and gambolling children, is, of course, the chief object of interest here. The State Library was closed, but I was pleased to find that I am assured would have been open, if the session of the General Assembly, as also into the State Chamber. The latter is admirably constructed, and well arranged as to desks, &c., but is very much overdone. The former is also well constructed, in the sense of sound; but it was constructed quite handsomely, far more so than our own "shabby genteel" hall at the "ancient city" of Annapolis.

The Geological Rooms of the State were also visited by us, and are a most interesting. The polite and obliging superintendent, Mr. Taylor, afforded every facility for the profitable use of the brief time allowed for inspection, and took special pains with the various specimens of rock found in this ancient State, which are carefully arranged in glass cases, and are in the order selected by nature, save a few strata, from the primitive and purest formation to the most recent, or the most imperfect, combination of them. I justly considered the one of the first, the most ancient, as being illustrative of agricultural science, and calculated to assist in developing the resources of the soil.

In the department of *Reptilia*, the collection would, at first sight, strike a Southerner as culpably defective. We missed a few specimens of those lizards of the southern states, and also called "snakes" as also many of the lizard tribe. The same may be said with respect to the department of *Ornithology*. There are plenty of birds, such as the eagle, among some of the largest and swiftest, and most diabolical-looking owls imaginable. There is an absence of that variety, as to size and hue, found in our region. Indeed, the only case of really beautiful birds to

be seen came from the South, as a present from some similar institution. In it I noticed some familiar acquaintances of my childhood, such as orioles, blue jays, and the like. The collection exhibits a fine variety, and gives indications of having been collected from regions farther south than Baltimore—some of the specimens having come probably from points as far "southward in the distance lost" as Florida, or Mexico itself. But it is in the specimens of the slaves that we look for variety, beauty, and all, all, for a degree of utility, searched for in vain in your region. For this fact, however, we need not search beyond the dinner-table. There you may study the *Fishology* of the Empire State to your satisfaction. All that is necessary to open the eyes for your prior explorations, to fit out a new *Iteration*, is to have your fiscal arrangements well made!

In the Anatomical Museum of the Albany Medical College I found many specimens of the human body, well preserved, in the department of *Craniology*, and numerous; so are the preparations in *Morpholgy*, while the dissections, especially those designed to illustrate the nervous system, indicate a degree of care that is laudably wanting on the part of our medical committee, and in the school. He considered that the English seemed far too forgetful of the important fact that, with the acquisition of territory, they required increased and heavy responsibility. He could not believe that it would be better appreciated, more effectively supported, with the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. He also preached to twelve of our largest congregations in London. On last Sabbath he preached twice, and pleased his hearers with great effect. He has been a recommendation in itself of a disadvantage to him here.

Respecting monetary affairs, I am happy to send you a better account than in last issue. There is a decided improvement for the present in money affairs. Good bills, at a moderate rate, can be obtained at the rate of 6 per cent, in high.

This may be quoted as 6 per cent, and upward, in a large number of instances. The evidence necessary for a further large importation of grain from the country, and a fear that the payment for that article may again lead to a serious drain of gold, prevents a feeling of confidence in the future.

RETRIBUTION.

A Trip to the Capital of the Empire State—Object of it—A Case of Mercy for Gav. Young—Jews and Christians contrasted in certain respects—The State House—The Geological Rooms—The Anatomical Museum—Rev. Mr. Pepp's Glass Works—The Slave Cause in Albany, &c.

ALBANY, N. Y., May 29, 1847.

To the Editor of the *National Era*:

I wrote you a letter, under date of Boston, May 27, which had some fears of your not receiving in due time. There is one of the important objects of Anniversary Week in that city—an occasion which was one of novel and lively interest to me, and one, of which I felt inclined to say much more than the hurry under which I wrote allowed. However, it is probable that my notices of these reformatory movements were extended quite enough for the taste of the general reader, and that their brevity was, for that reason, fortunate.

The principal, I may say the sole object, of my visit to Albany, was a conference with Gov. Young, with respect to a case of humanity. I found His Excellency to be a plain, unpretending man, disposed to hear to the claims of my case, rather than the actual claims of the letters through which I obtained an introduction to him; for, it is known, I had taken the usual plan of approach, which appears to me to have been originally predicated upon the absurd notion that Governors cease to be men the moment they assume the authority of their office!

The case to which I refer is one of deep interest, as connected with the tyranny of some of our Maryland laws, and the evils used made of them by certain of our policemen. You would doubtless take not a little interest in its details, were I privileged to give them. This I may do, after the Governor has decided upon my application. Suffice it to say, that, having occasion to solicit the co-operation of certain individuals concerned, the most merciful of them were Jews!

Under the influence of those Christian prejudices instilled into my mind from infancy, I had felt disposed to pass them by; but I finally concluded to approach them as men. I did so, with the result—a result which may be profitably pondered by those who may be curiously informed, from a single act committed by some of the governors of this despised people, that they are not naturally actuated by the same impulses as Christ.

Here let me digress a little further, as allowable in epistolary writings, and declare my belief that thousands of our fellow-beings are actually better than their creeds. On no other supposition can I account for the fact, that, in all the essentials of truth, in all their aims at practical righteousness, exhibit but slight shades of contrast, after all. So with deportments from the path of rectitude, whether amounting to minor sins, or deeds most vile. Look at the finish of it, in which we are now engaged!

Behold how professing Christians— even professed ministers of the gospel, of every name, are *murdering*, instead of *loving* one another!

In view of this painful fact, it is natural that there is not a single Jew engaged in this country, who, I am led to express the fear, that were the slaves of Jesus on earth, faithfully exposing and rebuking the public and private sins of our nation, calling things by their right names, the Jews would not be under the necessity of becoming his murderers—there probably would be plenty of modern Christians ready to glory in the finish of his crucifixion!

After getting through my business with the Governor, I took a walk of observation, under the direction of our zealous and generally-heared friend Chapman, the great Patriot! The State House, which stands high above the city, was presented in an imposing view, as we approached in from the river. The steamer Isaac Newton, overlooking a lovely park, enlivened by the commanding note of musical birds and gambolling children, is, of course, the chief object of interest here. The State Library was closed, but I was pleased to find that I am assured would have been open, if the session of the General Assembly, as also into the State Chamber. The latter is admirably constructed, and well arranged as to desks, &c., but is very much overdone. The former is also well constructed, in the sense of sound; but it was constructed quite handsomely, far more so than our own "shabby genteel" hall at the "ancient city" of Annapolis.

The Geological Rooms of the State were also visited by us, and are a most interesting. The polite and obliging superintendent, Mr. Taylor, afforded every facility for the profitable use of the brief time allowed for inspection, and took special pains with the various specimens of rock found in this ancient State, which are carefully arranged in glass cases, and are in the order selected by nature, save a few strata, from the primitive and purest formation to the most recent, or the most imperfect, combination of them. I justly considered the one of the first, the most ancient, as being illustrative of agricultural science, and calculated to assist in developing the resources of the soil.

In the department of *Reptilia*, the collection would, at first sight, strike a Southerner as culpably defective. We missed a few specimens of those lizards of the southern states, and also called "snakes" as also many of the lizard tribe. The same may be said with respect to the department of *Ornithology*.

There are plenty of birds, such as the eagle, among some of the largest and swiftest, and most diabolical-looking owls imaginable. There is an absence of that variety, as to size and hue, found in our region. Indeed, the only case of really beautiful birds to

be seen came from the South, as a present from some similar institution. In it I noticed some familiar acquaintances of my childhood, such as orioles, blue jays, and the like. The collection exhibits a fine variety, and gives indications of having been collected from regions farther south than Baltimore—some of the specimens having come probably from points as far "southward in the distance lost" as Florida, or Mexico itself. But it is in the specimens of the slaves that we look for variety, beauty, and all, all, for a degree of utility, searched for in vain in your region. For this fact, however, we need not search beyond the dinner-table. There you may study the *Fishology* of the Empire State to your satisfaction. All that is necessary to open the eyes for your prior explorations, to fit out a new *Iteration*, is to have your fiscal arrangements well made!

In the Anatomical Museum of the Albany Medical College I found many specimens of the human body, well preserved, in the department of *Craniology*, and numerous; so are the preparations in *Morpholgy*, while the dissections, especially those designed to illustrate the nervous system, indicate a degree of care that is laudably wanting on the part of our medical committee, and in the school. He considered that the English seemed far too forgetful of the important fact that, with the acquisition of territory, they required increased and heavy responsibility. He could not believe that it would be better appreciated, more effectively supported, with the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

It is deeply to be regretted that this most interesting Society does not attract a greater amount of public attention at each meeting.

The meetings, held in the Aborigines rooms of the Strand, of London, have been favorable this year by the visit of the Rev. Stephen H. Gloucester, a colored person, a pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, and of the Foreign Colored Society, the colored people of the Foreign Slave Society, the Colonial Mission, and the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. This appeal, together with one sent to the *Societe de la Mortal Chretien* of Paris, had been well received, with good results. The report was then sent on to present sketches of the present state of the Aborigines in the British dominions and other parts of the world. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Burnet stated his belief that the English would be more effectually supported by the adoption of the report and other resolutions of a routine nature, the meeting closed.

